

CHAPTER: XV POST ELIGIBILITY BENEFITS	SECTION: 1 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	COMAR: 10.09.24.03
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REQUIREMENTS

- A. Provide transitional Medical Assistance (MA) for 12 months without a separate application, for all members of the customer's household if:
 1. The TCA case was open in 3 or more months of the 6-month period preceding the month the customer became ineligible for TCA, and:
 2. TCA ineligibility was due solely to increased countable earned income
- B. Provide transitional MA for 4 months without a separate application, if the reason for closing the TCA case is the result of an increase in:
 1. Child Support payments, or
 2. A combination of child support and unearned income

Note: Every time a TCA case is closed or denied for any reason, determine MA eligibility. If the parent/caretaker relative is ineligible, a pregnant woman and the children may be eligible for (MCHP, etc.).

- C. After the 12-month or 4-month transitional period, customers must complete a MA application to determine if they continue to be categorically and financially eligible
- D. If there are earnings and child support income, close the case for earnings to allow for the 12-month extension

MA CATEGORIES

Everyone who receives MA is in one of the following categories

1. Family And Children (FAC) is for unmarried children under 21 who meet income and asset requirements for their size household, and their parents and non-parent caretaker relatives other than parents
 - The remaining parent is included if the other parent is:
 - a. Not living at home
 - b. Deceased
 - Both parents are included if one of them is:
 - a. Unemployed
 - b. Temporarily Disabled

CHAPTER: XV POST ELIGIBILITY BENEFITS	SECTION: 1 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	COMAR: 10.09.24.03
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2. Maryland Children's Health Program is for pregnant women of any age and children up to age 19 who meet income requirements for their size household and are not eligible for any other MA category
3. Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) is for people who are 65 or over, blind, disabled, or fatally ill and meet the same income and asset requirements of those in the FAC group
4. Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB) pays the following Medicare costs for people who receive Medicare and meet a higher income level than ABD above:
 - Hospital deductible (Part A)
 - Monthly Part B insurance premium
 - Annual Part B deductible
5. Special Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB), for people with more income than allowed under QMB but with the same asset limits and pays:
 - Medicare Part B monthly insurance premium (normally deducted from Social Security checks)

TERMINATION

- A. Terminate the transitional MA at the close of the first month during the extension period in which a change is reported if the result of the change is:
 1. Household members are ineligible under another category, and
 2. No TCA eligible children reside in the home
- B. Terminate the transitional MA if it is discovered a household member fraudulently received TCA benefits at any time during the 6 months preceding the transitional period

EXAMPLES

1. Ms. Steno, age 40 received TCA benefits for herself and her 18 -year-old daughter. In September, at her recertification, she reported that her salary increased to \$150 per week. Her gross monthly income is calculated and applied as follows:

$$\$150 \times 4 = \$600$$

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\$600 - \$210 (35% gross monthly income disregard) = \$390

The maximum TCA benefit for a family of 2 is \$300 (for demonstration purposes only) which her countable gross income exceeds by \$90. The case manager closed the TCA case effective October and authorized transitional MA benefits for 12 months (from October through September).

2. The following June, Ms. Steno's daughter Tracy graduated from high school. Ms. Steno reported Tracy left home right after graduation to share an apartment with her girlfriend.

The case manager closed the transitional MA effective July, before the 12- month transitional period ended in September, because Tracy left the household and Ms. Steno does not fit into any other MA category listed above.

3. Ms. Reno received TCA for herself and 2 children (\$400 for demonstration purposes). The child support from her ex-husband, which was assigned to the State while her TCA case was active, increased to "\$500 per month. \$100 more than the maximum benefit.

Since the child support exceeded \$400, CARES automatically closed the TCA case and notified the customer. The case manager authorized transitional MA for 4 months.

4. Ms. Army received TCA for herself and 3 children. She received \$300 per month in VA benefits and \$150 in child support, which was assigned to the State while her TCA case was active. Her cash benefit was "\$200 (maximum benefit for demonstration purposes \$500 - \$300 = \$200). Mr. Army increased his monthly support payments to \$275. Total income from child support and VA benefits increased from \$450 to \$575 per month, \$75 more than the maximum benefit.

Since the combined child support and VA benefits exceeded \$500, CARES automatically closed the TCA case and notified the customer. The case manager authorized transitional MA for 4 months

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- MA Manual
- Other Programs and Services –Medical Assistance, EPSDT